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as in the determination of generic types, elimination is simply the application of the most fundamental of nomenclatural rules, *the law of priority*.

J. A. ALLEN.

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY,  
NEW YORK.

#### MISREPRESENTATIONS OF NATURE IN POPULAR MAGAZINES.

IN the December number, 1906, of *The Wide World* E. W. G. Wesson claims to have passed by boat on the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon. The greater part of his descriptive matter has been taken, paragraph by paragraph from R. B. Stanton's account of the descent made years ago by Stanton's second party, and of the descriptions which are original with Wesson, some are so original as to be totally outside of the realm of truth.

That he never made the journey which he claims to have made is evident, and the magazine which publishes such falsehoods does much harm and discredits itself.

A. R. CROOK.

#### SPECIAL ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY OF THE GASTEROPODA OF THE UNITED STATES—LEIDY.

##### A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: Through an oversight when preparing a bibliography of the late Professor Joseph Leidy's contributions to science, published (1904) under the auspices of the Smithsonian Institution and incorporated in a publication under the title 'Researches in Helminthology and Parasitology by Joseph Leidy, M.D., with a bibliography of his contributions to science,' 1904, the writer neglected to incorporate the title to a work on the 'Special Anatomy of the Gastropoda of the United States,' Boston, 1851, pp. 65, plates 16, published in conjunction with the work of Amos Binney and W. G. Binney, entitled 'Terrestrial Breathing Mollusks of the United States and Adjacent Territory of North America,' edited by A. A. Gould, Boston, 1851-9.

The work of Leidy devoted to the special anatomy and physiology of various gastropod mollusks may be found in section 11, Vol. I.

The writer regrets the oversight, particularly as it is a work to which frequent reference is made by investigators along similar lines of research, and more so since the publication was well known and special care was taken to see that it appeared in the original bibliography.

JOSEPH LEIDY, JR.

#### EARLY TYPES OF MAN IN IOWA.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: In connection with the article on the discovery of an early type of man in Nebraska, I wish to call attention to what seem to be similar types from mounds in Iowa. In the proceedings of the Davenport Academy, Vol. VI., is a paper by Professor Frederick Starr on a 'Summary of the Archeology of Iowa,' in which are figured two skulls, said to be of the Neanderthal type. One of these was found in a mound in Chickasaw County and the other in Floyd County. While it is difficult to decide from the illustrations, as to whether these skulls are of the Neanderthal type, it is obvious that they bear striking resemblances to it. It is also suggestive that these skulls should be found west of the Mississippi and in a part of the same geographical area from which comes the Nebraska man.

C. W.

#### MALAY AND FILIPINO BASKETRY.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: No doubt this will fall under the eyes of more than one who has examined Malay or Filipino basketry. Everywhere in Malaysia is to be found a knot in coarse or fine splits and stems of tough and pliable plants, used in place of nails, screws, pegs and the like. This knot is practically two round turns and two half hitches. It may be described thus: (1) Pass the free end of the split or other binder toward the right to where the knot is to be tied; (2) then under and around these parts and behind the standing-part; (3) pass the free end again around in the same direction, bringing it this time in front of the standing-part and under the two round turns toward the right; (4) take a half hitch around the standing-part